

Torrance, California  
April 1, 1958

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a regular meeting at 5:30 P. M. Tuesday, April 1, 1958, in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California.

Those responding to roll call by City Clerk Bartlett were:  
COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Drale, Isen. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Blount, Jahn. City Manager Stevens and City Attorney Remelmeyer were also present.

At the request of Mayor Isen, Mr. George Naylor led the salute to our Flag.

The Reverend Monrad Berguson, Hope Evangelical United Brethren Church, North Torrance, opened the meeting with an invocation.

Councilmen Blount and Jahn joined the meeting at 5:32 P. M.

City Attorney Remelmeyer reported that a correction should be made in the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held March 25, 1958. The motion made by Mayor Isen to table the Hearing on the Hollywood Riviera Sewer District No. 2 should have read: "Mayor Isen moved to table this another week, so the City Attorney could get advice on how this could be considered, and to continue the Hearing to the Council Meeting of April 1, 1958, at 5:30 P. M."

Councilman Benstead moved to approve the Minutes as written with the correction made by the City Attorney.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, no objections, so ordered.

HEARINGS:

1. HEARING ON ASSESSMENT (Continued) HOLLYWOOD RIVIERA SEWER DISTRICT NO. 2:

Mayor Isen announced this was the time and place for the continued Hearing on the Hollywood Riviera Sewer District No. 2. He asked if the City Clerk had received any new written protests.

City Clerk Bartlett said he had not.

Mayor Isen asked that the Council dispose of the protest of J. R. and B. J. Ware, which was read at the last meeting.

Councilman Drale moved this protest be filed as a matter of record.

Mayor Isen ruled the motion out of order, pointing out that all other protests on this matter had been acted on individually, and had been denied. He stated this would be ordered filed with all other protests, but should be acted on.

Mr. Dale D. De Sonne, 208 Via Buena Ventura, handed a written protest dated March 29, 1958, to the City Clerk.

At the request of the Council, the protest from Mr. De Sonne against the assessment on his property was read in full by City Clerk Bartlett.

Mayor Isen asked the pleasure of the Council on this protest and the protest from J. R. and B. J. Ware.

Councilman Jahn asked the City Attorney if it would be in order for him to make a motion on these, even though he had expressed his intention at the last meeting to make a motion respreading this assessment after the Hearing is closed.

The City Attorney said it would be, as the proposed motion was not before the house at this time.

Councilman Jahn moved the protests of J. R. and B. J. Ware be denied.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead.

Mayor Isen asked the City Engineer if there was anything different about Mr. De Sonne's protest than in the other protests received by the Council, and the City Engineer replied that there was not.

The motion to deny carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Isen asked if there were any oral protests.

Mr. William J. Hanson, 327 Paseo de Gracia protested against the method used to spread the assessment, stating it had been the belief of all involved that the cost would be equally divided.

The City Engineer explained in detail, as he had at the other Hearings on this, the method used for spreading this assessment and the reason for it.

Mr. A. E. Geiser, 151 Via los Miradores, agreed with Mr. Hanson on the method he would prefer for spreading the assessment.

No one else asked to be heard at this time.

Councilman Benstead moved to close the Hearing.

Councilman Drale seconded the motion.

Councilman Jahn asked if, by closing the Hearing, the Council would be approving the present proposal for spreading the Assessment, saying he wished to move to re-spread it.

The City Attorney checked this with the Assessment Engineer, who was present, and reported that this Hearing should be closed, and if a new method of spreading the Assessment is approved, there should be a new Hearing date set, and notices sent out on it, as this would be setting an entirely new pattern.

Motion to close the Hearing carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Drale moved all protests be denied.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Benstead said because this had been so confusing, he would like to move to refer this entire matter to the City Manager for his study and recommendation to be returned to the City Council two weeks from tonight, on April 15, 1958. He asked the City Attorney if that would be too long a time.

City Attorney Remelmeyer said that would be legal, and reported that Mr. Hess, representing the contractor, was present and would like to be heard.

Mr. Roscoe R. Hess, 1128 Rowan Building, 458 So. Spring St., Los Angeles, representing the contractor, spoke to the Council briefly. He outlined different methods of spreading assessments which are in use or have been used, and reported that this method seemed very fair. He protested further continuance of the Hearings, saying there had been only about 9 or 10 protests against the 700 assessments, and that each day of delay costs his client, the contractor, about \$50.00.

Mayor Isen asked for an explanation of the cost to the contractor.

Mr. Hess explained that the bonds can be issued on the 31st day from the recording of the assessment, and that the interest costs the contractor about \$50 a day until the bonds can be issued. The longer this is delayed, the greater is the contractor's cost.

Councilman Jahn said he was losing only an intangible.

Mr. Hess said the contractor has money invested which he needs.

Mayor Isen asked if there was a responsibility here.

Mr. Hess thought it would not be considered as a responsibility, except perhaps a malicious one. He believed the Council would act in a responsible manner and in good faith.

The contractor, Mr. Burch, explained that he is having to pay 10% interest on the money invested, and when the bonds are issued he will be able to stop paying that interest. He said this is a heavy expense to him.

Councilman Benstead said this had made the issue even more confusing to him.

Councilman Jahn explained that there is an honest difference of

opinion concerning the assessments; he explained that the people who had carried the petitions and those who had signed it had been agreed that the cost should be equally divided among the participants in this sewer district. They had known this would not be binding on the Council, but this had been their intent. For that reason, he intended to make a motion asking that the Assessment be re-spread.

Mayor Isen ruled Councilman Benstead's motion to refer this to the City Manager had failed for lack of a second.

Councilman Drale referred to the 13 C-2 lots in the District, and the fact that they had been assessed higher than the R-1 lots. He asked if Councilman Jahn had intended to maintain that ratio in his motion.

Councilman Jahn said his motion would stipulation that the apartment house lots be left as they have been assessed because their benefit is greater.

Councilman Jahn moved his motion of the last Hearing, as follows: "That the total cost of the mains and other costs of this Sewer District be lumped into one sum and divided by the number of lots in the District and the assessment spread in that manner, with the intent of his motion that the rule not be changed on the multiple units on Palos Verdes Boulevard."

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale.

Councilman Blount asked if this meant we were now 'instructing the Engineer to make such changes as desired and return the assessment as changed at a specified future date', as outlined in Item 1 under the correction schedule presented by the City Engineer's office.

The City Attorney said the Council was at that point.

Councilman Blount asked how long this would take, directing his question to the City Engineer, and said we should set a time and date.

The City Engineer said he could have this done in one week.

Councilman Jahn amended his motion to specify that this should be brought back to the Council at their meeting to be held on Wednesday, April 9, at 8:00 P. M.

Councilman Drale accepted the amendment to the motion in his second.

Motion, as amended, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

#### RESOLUTION NO. 3438

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, ORDERING CERTAIN REVISIONS  
IN THE ASSESSMENTS FOR THE HOLLYWOOD RIVIERA  
SEWER DISTRICT NO. 2.

Councilman Jahn moved that Section 1 of that Resolution be made to agree with his motion which has just been adopted, and that the Council dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Councilman Benstead asked that the Resolution be read in full as corrected.

City Clerk Bartlett read Resolution No. 3438 in full.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3438.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn asked to have it made clear that he believes when this assessment is re-spread, it will be about \$450 per lot; however, he pointed out that this is about \$150 per lot cheaper than the original estimate of the costs of the sewers had been. He added that no matter how this is spread, it will be very much lower than the estimate because of the method of building the sewer.

The City Engineer agreed that this was so.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS:

1. A March 28, 1958, petition from officers and members of the Torrance Woman's Club Garden Section and/or residents of the areas adjacent to Torrance Blvd. between Crenshaw and Madrona, requested that the parkways along Torrance Blvd. be planted and sprinkling facilities be installed. The petition bore 484 signatures.

Councilman Drale concurred with the recommendation that this be planted, saying that about a year ago, the Council had authorized either the Street or Park Supt. had been authorized to plant those parkways, and he would move that they follow up on this.

Councilman Benstead said the motion did not agree with the petition, which asked that sprinklers be installed. He pointed out that they would be quite expensive.

Councilman Drale said the motion made several months ago referred this to either the Street or Park Dept., and they should find the best way to handle this, using ivy or some kind of shrubs, but did not include the sprinklers.

Councilman Jahn seconded Councilman Drale's motion.

Mayor Isen thought this letter should go to the City Manager to see if something could be worked out using planting and sprinklers, and he moved the matter of permanent landscaping with shrubs, not grass, and sprinklers, be referred to our budget study.

There were no objections to the motion by Councilman Drale, and it was so ordered.

Councilman Benstead seconded Mayor Isen's motion, and as there were no objections, it was so ordered.

2. A March 27, 1958, letter from the Dow Chemical Co., 305 Crenshaw, concerned drainage of a large area of their property which the letter stated drains to the area. The letter asked this be referred to the City Engineer.

Appended to the letter was a March 28, 1958, memo from the Asst. to the City Engineer, John R. Patrick. Mr. Patrick said he had discussed this with Mr. Ryan, Plant Manager at Dow, and it had been found that it would be necessary to pump the water from the land in question to a drain over a flume. He explained that a survey had been made, and the other steps taken to try to solve this problem.

After a short discussion of this problem, Councilman Drale moved to refer this problem to the Public Works Department.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, no objection, so ordered.

Mr. Ryan, Plant Manager of Dow Chemical, was present and asked to be heard. He said water drains to the area from as far south of it as the Civic Center, and from other property west of this land.

Director of Public Works Russell explained that we are aware of this problem, and the Engineering Dept. is studying it trying to find a solution. When Mr. Patrick returns to the office, this work will go forward.

The Mayor asked that Mr. Ryan be called in to any conference with Messrs. Russell and Patrick.

Councilman Blount asked to hear Mr. Ryan's ideas on this.

Mr. Ryan felt that the Santa Fe lines which cross Crenshaw divert the water off Crenshaw onto their property. He said there is a sewer opening there which is about 5" too high to pick up the drainage. The land behind them is being developed now and the water is draining to the Dow property. They would appreciate any consideration which can be given to them.

Councilman Jahn believed the only real solution would be a storm drain, and he pointed out that we do not have the money for that. He asked if this land is not lower than any land around it, and if this drainage is not largely natural flow. He thought that Mr. Ryan's request concerning the water on Crenshaw being diverted could be considered.

Mr. Ryan said that would take care of about 25% of the property,



but that most of the drainage comes from the area developed by residential construction east of the City Hall and by the Civic Center and other construction between Torrance Blvd. and their property.

Councilman Jahn pointed out that this is really two problems; the one is that of natural flow, and he did not know what the City could do about that. He felt that it would be in order for the Engineering Dept. to consider some method of handling the water being diverted off Crenshaw.

Councilman Drale asked if the area is high, and the City Manager replied that the water does not run across the tracks and there is nothing there to permit it to run through there; he said there would have to be a culvert installed there to permit that to drain.

Councilman Drale felt this should be done, saying he has noted that the street is being damaged by the water there, and that there should be a culvert.

Councilman Jahn moved to refer the problem of the water flowing down Maricopa and Crenshaw to the north and not going to the basins shown on the sketch presented to the Council by the City Manager in connection with this problem, be referred to the Engineering Dept. and the Department of Public Works for a solution to be worked out and brought to the Council for consideration.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale.

Councilman Jahn said he had made this motion as he did because he did not believe we should alter that natural drainage.

Mayor Isen thought we should have the study before a final decision is reached.

The City Manager said that lake is the lowest point in the system illustrated on the sketch he had given the Council. The land had been graded and levelled some years ago, and he believed that it is probably the plan of Santa Fe to put in drains ultimately.

Councilman Jahn felt this problem to be similar to that of the Walteria Lake area, and that it would come under the over-all plan we have for City-wide drainage.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mayor Isen moved to refer this entire letter and the problems in it to the Engineering and Public Works Departments for study and recommendation.

Motion seconded by Councilman Blount, no objections, so ordered.

Mayor Isen said with all the rain we have had and the many problems brought about by the rain, he felt we should have extra help in the Engineering or Public Works Departments if they are needed to help take care of these problems, saying such help could be procured on a temporary basis.

The Director of Public Works, John Russell, said they do not need extra help. The Department is doing all it can on these problems now.

Mayor Isen suggested that if the need arose for such extra, temporary help, Mr. Russell refer to Mr. Stevens about it.

Mayor Isen said Mr. George Naylor and Mr. Paget were here with letters they would like to give the Council containing requests from the downtown merchants. As a courtesy to them, he said the Council would hear them now.

City Clerk Bartlett read in full the letter handed to him by Mr. Naylor; this was dated April 1, 1958, and signed by Del Nadeau, President of the Downtown Retail Merchants' Association. The letter contained their opinion that unless our patrolling is reduced to one policewoman to check parking meters and lots in the downtown area, the money from the meters which is being built up to buy off-street parking would not accumulate soon enough.

Councilman Benstead moved to refer this letter to the City Manager and Chief of Police.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, no objection, so ordered.

City Clerk Bartlett read in full the April 1, 1958, letter handed to him by Mr. Paget. This letter was also signed by Mr. Nadeau as the

President of the Downtown Retail Merchants' Association, and contained their request that a policeman be assigned to the downtown area during the day, and that the patrolling of alleys in that district be resumed at night.

Councilman Benstead moved to refer this matter to the Chief of Police.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen, no objections, so ordered.

At 6:30 P. M., the Mayor declared a recess, with the Council reconvening at 6:40 P. M.

3. A March 27, 1958 invoice from Duane W. Wheeler & Company was for election supplies, including tax, in the amount of \$27,968.36, and election services in the amount of \$4,560.00, a total sum of \$32,528.36.

Mayor Isen said this sum was entirely too large.

Councilman Jahn recalled that the Council had believed Wheeler's charges to be too high on previous elections as well.

Mayor Isen asked what this election would cost, altogether.

The City Manager said between ten and fifteen thousand dollars more than this.

Mayor Isen suggested sending this back to Mr. Wheeler for revision.

The City Manager said Mr. Wheeler was out of pocket quite a lot on this, and he thought it might be in order to pay half of this bill now with the understanding that we would like to have an itemized bill on the entire bill, and without an agreement to accept the whole bill.

Councilman Benstead asked if we paid a part of this whether we would not be agreeing to pay the whole bill.

The City Manager said we could make a stipulation on that.

This invoice was discussed at some length, and the consensus was that the charges are very high.

The City Manager said again he would recommend paying half of the bill now and having an itemized statement rendered before further payment was made.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the recommendation of the City Manager.

Councilman Blount seconded the motion.

Mayor Isen asked if this meant only half of the \$27,968.36, and the City Manager replied that he meant the whole bill.

Upon being questioned by Councilman Benstead, the City Attorney expressed himself as being wholly in agreement with the City Manager about this.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Councilman Jahn understood there was no competition to Mr. Wheeler in this business, but said he felt it is needed.

Mayor Isen moved the Council request an itemized statement on the invoice from Mr. Wheeler.

Councilman Drale said that was a part of his motion.

There were no objections and it was so ordered.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY MANAGER:

In a letter dated March 28, 1958, the City Manager submitted the following recommendations for the Council's consideration and approval:

#### APPROPRIATIONS:

1. To Bragg Crane Service for emergency equipment rental, the sum of \$1,250.26.
2. To McAmis and Baker for emergency equipment rental, the sum of \$395.32.

Councilman Benstead moved to concur with items 1 and 2 under Appropriations as recommended by the City Manager.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

FOR INFORMATION:

The Board of Directors of County Sanitation District No. 5 and South Bay Sanitation District adopted a resolution approving and ordering immediate termination and cancellation of contracts for refuse collection, entered into by the City of Torrance and the Sanitation Districts. This action was taken in reply to a letter informing the Districts that the City of Torrance had requested the above action.

ORAL FROM CITY MANAGER:

The City Manager reported he had given each of the Councilmen a map showing three studies of a sewer for the primary purpose of serving the Del Amo Shopping Center, but more than that, the property adjacent to that area and opening up the possibility of sewerage everything on both sides of Hawthorne and Sepulveda. He explained that we had asked the Sanitation District to consider putting the sewers on Hawthorne some time ago, and it was not accepted. A study was made, however; he and Mr. Russell had met with the principals of the Broadway Stores who were acting for the Shopping Center in Mr. Rawn's office and have considered these three possibilities. The Sanitation District does not like the plan of putting the sewers on Hawthorne because it is a State Highway. There is already a sewer up Madison. The #3 study, up Ocean over Sepulveda to Hawthorne is the cheapest and probably the one the Sanitation District likes best of these three plans. Mr. Rawn will recommend this at the Department meeting on Wednesday next, and the Del Amo interests have indicated they will furnish \$36,000 for this plan. The District will pay them back \$18,000 of this money in time, and the District would, in time, like to have the privilege of collecting along Ocean at the rate of \$2.50 per front foot for anyone who would like to tie in to the sewer. It would not cost the City any money at all if they approve and accept this plan. The City Manager recommended that this plan be adopted.

Councilman Drale asked about the people east of Hawthorne, and if they could tie in to a sewer.

The City Manager said there is a sewer now in Madison Street.

Councilman Drale asked if this meant everyone in the area could tie in to either the sewer on Madison or the one on Ocean, and the City Manager said yes.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the plan recommended by the City Manager.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

The maps the City Manager had given the Councilmen were returned to him by the Council.

COMMUNICATIONS SUBMITTED BY THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT:

1. A March 28, 1958, letter from the Rich Sign-Neon Company, signed by LaRue E. Foster, requested permission to erect a neon sign 6' x 35' at 16635 Crenshaw Blvd., on the north side of a market building

Mr. Lee Schlens, Supt. of Bldg., said the sign is over 42 sq. ft. and will require Council approval.

Mr. Schlens came forward and told the Council a question has come up on the property, and he asked that this be hold over until the next meeting of the Council.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT:

1. A March 27, 1958, letter from J. I. Scharfman, Director of Finance, was directed to the City Manager, and asked for approval of his participation in the Biennial Institute to be held in Monterey on May 1-2, 1958, by the League of California Cities Committee on Finance Administration, with appropriate and necessary expenses paid.

Upon being asked the question, the City Manager said he would concur with this request.

Mayor Isen moved this request be granted.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AIRPORT COMMISSION:

1. In a letter dated March 27, 1958, Thos. B. Abrams, President of the Airport Commission, conveyed to the Council that Commission's recommendation that the Mercury International application for a lease be approved, with the City Manager and Airport Manager to work with Mercury in arriving at the terms of the lease and return it to the Commission with the terms and sketches of the proposed development for approval.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with this recommendation of the Airport Commission.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

2. In a March 27, 1958 letter, Thos. B. Abrams, President of the Airport Commission, conveyed to the Council that Commission's recommendation that Thomas Chester be granted a 90-day option to lease a parcel at the rear of his present Chester lease. The recommendation stated that he should be given the option on a 100' x 100' parcel at \$195 for the 3-month option at the rate of \$65 per month. Other specifications were outlined.

Councilman Jahn said he could not understand from the motion whether this meant they were to pay for the option or not.

Councilman Drale agreed, and moved to send this back to the Commission for clarification.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn.

Councilman Benstead asked if this price of \$65 per month for a 100' x 100' parcel was not very low.

The City Manager said we have a number of such plots on the Airport, and \$65 per month is actually a very good rental. The City Manager said as he interpreted the letter, they were not to pay for the option. He suggested that the Council make a decision now as to whether or not these options should be paid for.

Councilman Benstead moved that options should be paid for.

Motion seconded by Mayor Isen.

Councilman Drale withdrew his motion, and Councilman Jahn withdrew his second to the motion.

Councilman Benstead's motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT:

1. In a memo dated March 27, 1958, Geo. C. Powell, Planning Director, submitted the Commission's recommendation for approval on the following applications for Waivers:

M. Theodore Meier, 1309 Maple Ave., requesting Waiver to permit 18' front yard setback at corner of garage only;  
Jack M. MacDonald, 628 Via Monte D'Oro, requesting rear yard waiver to 5' at one corner of garage.

Councilman Jahn moved to concur with the recommendation of the



Planning Commission on these two applications for Waivers.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Drale, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT:

1. In a letter dated March 28, 1958, the City Engineer recommended release of Bond No. 219767, in the amount of \$21,000 on Tract No. 17150 to the subdivider, the Knolls Construction Company.

A March 28, 1958, letter from C. W. Clemmer, Asst. Park Supt., was attached and concurred in the recommendation as the trees in the tract have been inspected and approved, necessary corrections were made, and the planting conforms with the requirements of the City.

Councilman Drale moved to concur with the release of this Bond.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Drale, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

2. In a letter dated March 28, 1958, the City Engineer reported that the Council, at their meeting of December 17, 1957, had concurred with the recommendation for the extension of a culvert under Redondo Beach Blvd. at Ainsworth, at an estimated cost of \$2,500.00. He had received an informal bid on this, and found it would cost about \$2,700.00. He asked permission to proceed.

Councilman Benstead moved that we call for bids on this.

Motion seconded by Councilman Drale, no objections, so ordered.

3. In a letter dated March 28, 1958, John R. Patrick, Asst. to the City Engineer, submitted a letter from the Hi-Shear Rivet Tool Co., located on 247th St., in which they asked that the City participate by furnishing the grading and base material for the construction of a concrete gutter for a distance of approximately 570' along the land they have leased from the City. They will then construct the concrete gutter at their expense.

Mr. Patrick added that this request was submitted to the Staff on March 24, 1958, and was recommended for approval since it is located on 247th Street. It is estimated that the cost of this construction would be about \$700.00.

In response to a question, the City Engineer said this would merely take care of the minor nuisance water. He said it would deliver the water to the east as the gutter on a street would do.

Mayor Isen asked if this would be paid for from the Airport Fund, and the City Manager said it would if it is approved.

Councilman Drale moved to concur in this request.

Motion seconded by Councilman Blount.

Councilman Jahn asked if this gutter would stop at Hi-Shear, and the City Engineer replied that the flow from Mayflower Trailer on is westerly, and that Mayflower has already built a gutter.

Councilman Jahn asked if this proposed gutter would handle the water there today, and the City Engineer said it would not.

Councilman Blount asked whether this project, when completed and connected to the drain at Madison, would handle the flow referred to by Councilman Jahn. The City Engineer said it would not.

Motion carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Blount, Drale, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Jahn. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Jahn said he had voted against this because he wanted to do it right, and he did not think this would accomplish that purpose.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY:

1. In a letter dated March 24, 1958, the City Attorney and the City Engineer reported concerning the prompt release of Subdivision Bonds. The letter contained their recommendation for posting of a minor bond when all of the work except very small items has been done on a subdivision.

Councilman Drale moved this be filed as a matter of record. There were no objections and it was so ordered.

2. In a letter dated March 13, 1958, the Asst. to the City Engineer, John R. Patrick, submitted to the Council the following easement deeds, both approved by the City Attorney and the City Manager:

- a. Easement deed dated Feb. 26, 1958, given by Richard and Joan Ryan needed for the 2' widening of 235th St., and 27' for future 234th Street.
- b. Easement deed dated Jan. 30, 1958, given by John R. and Lottie Cassinelli. This street easement was obtained to assure the extension of Mansel Ave. through this property since the Dominguez Water Co. had plans for the construction of some facilities within this proposed street.

Councilman Jahn noted that no sketches were attached.

Councilman Drale suggested holding this over, and said he did not receive sketches either.

Mayor Isen agreed.

Councilman Drale moved to hold this over for the necessary information to be presented on the Agenda for the next meeting.

Motion seconded by Councilman Blount, no objections, so ordered.

3. In a letter dated March 28, 1958, the City Attorney reported to the Council on the date of commencement of construction and completion on construction by Jefferson, Inc., on their lease from the City. This had been requested by Councilman Jahn.

This was ordered filed as a matter of record.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. With a cover letter dated March 25, 1958, the City Attorney submitted a proposed Resolution amending Resolution No. 1935 to include street light standards, which had been studied and approved by Messrs Bishop, Patrick, Schlens, and Scharfman as well as Mr. Russell, the Director of Public Works.

Mayor Isen said he would like more time to study this. He said his agenda had been very late reaching him due to a delay in the postal service.

After some discussion, it was found that only Councilman Jahn had received his Agenda at the usual time.

There were no objections, and this was ordered held for study.

At this time, a gentleman in the audience asked to hear the oral report due from City Engineer Bishop which had been planned to be given under "Engineering".

There were no objections, and the City Engineer was asked to give his report to the Council.

City Engineer Bishop reported he had been out to look at the Kissel subdivision just a few hours ago, and he felt that Mr. Kissel and his superintendent are doing about all that can be done to keep the drains open and from spilling over. He thought little or no damage had been done to the homes below this tract which would not have been done if the tract had not been built.

Mr. Bishop reported that he felt he would from now on recommend the planting of such slopes with either algerian ivy or honeysuckle, as the ice plant commonly used comes out of the ground in exceptionally heavy rains. The planting he mentioned here would have to be done late in development of a subdivision, he reported, as both the ivy and honeysuckle needs constant watering. He recommended that the ivy or honeysuckle be planted with either rye or barley for quick cover.

Councilman Jahn thought the type of planting to be used was under the supervision of the City Engineer.

Mr. John Hardy of the Palos Verdes-Riviera Homeowners Association 5506 Calle de Ricardo, said they think Mr. Kissel is doing a good job and think the City Engineer is doing a good job. He explained that the problem they are concerned with is that of damage to their property done by water from the City of Palos Verdes Estates. He explained that the water from two drainage pipes there overflows into their yards and has caused a lot of damage to some of the homes.

City Engineer Bishop reported he had given the Council a copy of his letter to the Palos Verdes Riviera Homeowners Assn. under the heading of 'Information Only', and that he believed his recommendations therein would solve the problems. He said that Mr. Fred Irvin, the City Engineer in the City of Palos Verdes Estates, would follow up on the corrections needed, and said he has already done a great deal of the work needed.

The City Engineer told the Council that three of the lots had suffered damages; these had been inspected, and two of the lots would have no more problems. He said the properties had suffered erosion.

Mr. Dietz, 4102 Paseo de las Tortugas, said about 70 cubic yards of dirt have been washed onto his property.

In reply to a question, the City Engineer said he believed that should be corrected by the City of Palos Verdes Estates.

Mayor Isen told the people interested in this that their claim may be against the City of Palos Verdes Estates. He explained to them that they should determine that as soon as possible, and that this Council would give them any cooperation possible.

Mayor Isen explained that this is a private party, and the City cannot act for them.

Councilman Drale thought it would be of assistance to the people here if they had a report from our City Engineer on this.

The City Engineer said they have had such a report.

Councilman Jahn asked about the spillway recommended in Mr. Bishop's letter, and why it was needed. Mr. Bishop replied that he believed one property, owned by Mr. Armistead, still needs that extra protection. He recommended we build this as an emergency measure, saying it would cost about \$200,000.

Councilman Drale so moved.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mr. Orville Armistead, 4222 Paseo de las Tortugas, asked if our City would assume any responsibility for the damage to his property. He said the damage done to his lot was by water coming from above his lot.

The City Attorney explained the City could not pay such damages.

The City Engineer said the inlet at Via Cartegena in the City of Palos Verdes Estates get plugged up, but it has been cleaned and he thought it would now handle reasonable rains.

Councilman Blount said the City was responsible for storm drains, and he felt they had been negligent.

Mayor Isen agreed, and suggested the City Attorney work closely with the City Engineer to determine whether there is any liability on the part of the City of Torrance or the City of Palos Verdes Estates.

Councilman Blount moved our City Attorney and City Engineer write a letter to the City of Palos Verdes Estates inquiring as to their intentions and general responsibility to their liability and asking that they assist in every way possible to correct the conditions

outlined by these people.

Motion seconded by Councilman Jahn, no objections, so ordered.

ORDINANCES:

1. A March 27, 1958, letter from the City Attorney submitted a Fireworks Ordinance embodying the change asked by the Council when they adopted the Fireworks Ordinance on April 18, 1958.

As the Council had not received their Agendae early enough to study this, the Ordinance was ordered held over for the next meeting of the Council.

Councilman Drale left the meeting at 7:15 P. M.

2. A cover letter from City Clerk Bartlett submitted for its second reading Ordinance No. 962, which was adopted by the following vote at its first reading on March 25, 1958: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount and Drale. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

ORDINANCE NO. 962

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING APPENDIX I OF "THE CODE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, 1954" (ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE NO. 791), RECLASSIFYING THAT CERTAIN PROPERTY DESCRIBED IN PLANNING COMMISSION CASE NO. 486.

Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Ordinance.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Benstead moved for adoption of Ordinance No. 962 at its second and final reading.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Drale.

PROCLAMATIONS:

Mayor Isen proclaimed the Month of April as Cancer Prevention Month in the City of Torrance, and urged all citizens to take whatever steps they may to prevent and avoid Cancer.

REPORTS:

1. The Office of the City Clerk advised that the report of the Metropolitan Water District General Manager and Chief Engineer, and the Controller, for the month of February, 1958, is now on file in the City Clerk's office.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

The City Attorney presented a Resolution prepared at the direction of the Council at their last meeting, and City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 3439

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REQUESTING CONGRESS AND THE POSTMASTER GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES TO PROVIDE TORRANCE MAILING ADDRESSES FOR ALL RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE.



Councilman Benstead moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Mayor Isen, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Mayor Isen moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3439.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Mayor Isen suggested that when our Congressman, Cecil King, comes home from Washington a delegation wait upon him with copies of this Resolution and ask for his support.

2. City Clerk Bartlett read title to the following Resolution, which was presented by the City Attorney:

RESOLUTION NO. 3440

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO VACATE AN EASEMENT FOR SEWAGE DISPOSAL PURPOSES ON, AMONG OTHER PROPERTY, LOT 13 OF TRACT NO. 5944 IN THE CITY OF TORRANCE AND FIXING A TIME FOR THE HEARING THEREON AND FOR NOTICE THEREOF.

Councilman Jahn moved to dispense with further reading of the Resolution.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Jahn moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3440.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

The City Attorney reported to the Council that Mr. Barney Miller has withdrawn from the contest for the office of City Clerk. As the Attorney had been asked if Mr. Miller's name could be stricken from the ballot, he wished to report that the answer is, it cannot now be done.

In response to a question from the Mayor, the City Attorney said that the oath taken on the forms filed by a candidate for office is that they fulfill the State Code, and the requirement of residence in the City for at least one year consecutively is a City requirement. He said the correct information as to requirements for eligibility can be given out by his office or that of the City Clerk, and anyone can get this information.

Mayor Isen said that, because Mr. Miller's name will be on the ballot and mislead some of the voters, he would move that Mr. Miller's name be stricken from the ballot.

Councilman Jahn asked if that could be done.

The City Attorney replied it cannot; he explained that the only provision made for striking a name from the ballot is in case of the death of the candidate 40 days or more prior to the election. He has checked this thoroughly, and both the Attorney General and O'Melveny & Myers agree that in the absence of any provision for striking a name from the ballot, it cannot be done.

Mayor Isen felt that assumed that the candidacy was a valid one.

The City Attorney said that in case of such question, the candidate would have to be ruled invalid.

Mayor Isen declared his motion lost for lack of a second.

The City Attorney said in the absence of a Court Order, we could not do this; he said a citizen of the City of Torrance, or a candidate could take this to Court if they wished. If the Court should so order, the name could be stricken from the ballot.

Mayor Isen renewed his motion.

Councilman Jahn asked if the Mayor was fixing the responsibility on the City to have this name removed.

Mayor Isen felt this only stated that the Council agreed this should be done, and if any citizen wishes to do so they may take this to Court.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried by the following roll call vote: AYE: COUNCILMEN: Benstead, Jahn, Isen. NOES: COUNCILMEN: Blount. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: Drale.

Councilman Jahn asked if, in the future, there could be a fixed responsibility on the candidate for office.

The City Attorney said he would investigate this and make a report to the Council within a short time.

Councilman Blount presented a Resolution to the Attorney and asked that he distribute it for consideration at this time.

City Clerk Bartlett read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 3441

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE URGING THE CO-OPERATION OF THE LOCAL THEATRES, ADVERTISING DISTRIBUTORS, AND PROMOTERS OF ENTERTAINMENT IN PRESENTING TO THE PUBLIC ONLY MATERIAL OF UNQUESTIONED DECENCY.

At the request of Councilman Blount, the Resolution was read in full.

Councilman Blount moved for adoption of Resolution No. 3441.

Motion seconded by Councilman Benstead, and carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Blount referred to the tragedy in Redondo Beach during the past few days when two little boys lost their lives by drowning in a sump. He referred to the sump northwest of the corner of Hawthorne and Sepulveda, and said when the drain was recently brought in there by the market contractor, a low place was created big enough for children to fall in. He moved that sump, and all sumps in the City be given immediate inspection so if there is a possibility of such a tragedy it can be prevented.

Councilman Jahn seconded the motion, saying he hoped this meant someone would walk around each sump and inspect it.

Mayor Isen agreed with the motion, and said if it is necessary extra help should be hired at once so we can have thorough inspection of the sumps.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Jahn reported that the uncontrolled traffic in the center of the downtown area was creating real traffic problems, and asked that the Council refer to the Traffic Commission the consideration of traffic signals or lights for auto and pedestrian traffic control, specifying the main downtown intersections.

There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

Mayor Isen expressed concern about the problem of the sumps in the City, which he said we need, but the possibility of tragedy is always there. He said he had received an alarming call last night reporting to him that there is a sump behind the South High School 34' deep, 75' wide, where children play on rafts, and that the sump is poorly fenced. The Mayor asked if this sump is on school or City property.

Planning Director Powell reported that the sump is on School property, and that his office had notified the Board of Education of the dangerous conditions there about 10 days ago.

There were no objections, and Mayor Isen asked the City Manager to write another letter to the Board of Education about this tomorrow.

Mayor Isen said he would like to refer to the City Manager for study a suggestion concerning sumps. He said swimming pools are protected by having nets made of rope with floats on the inner perimeter which are fastened to the walls of the pool when the pool is not in use. The floats keep the net up, and in case a child falls onto the net, the child is kept afloat until rescue is possible. He said it might possibly help us if we had such nets around the sumps, to extend perhaps 20' out, and that if the nets hung there with floats on them, as the water rose the nets would float. He asked that the City Manager look into this possibility, and report to the Council.

Councilman Benstead moved all bills properly audited be paid. Motion, seconded by Councilman Jahn, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

Councilman Jahn moved that the Council adjourn to Wednesday, April 9, 1958, at 8:00 P. M.

Motion, seconded by Councilman Benstead, carried unanimously by roll call vote of those present.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 P. M.

*A. H. Barthel*

City Clerk of the City of Torrance,  
California

APPROVED:

*Albert Isen*

Mayor of the City of Torrance